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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany/USSR

DATE DISTR. 8 Sep 1950

SUBJECT Analysis of Soviet Penicillin Sample

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted] 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

25X1C

DATE ACQUIRED ~~BY SOURCE~~ [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

DATE OF INFORMATION [redacted]

labeled: "Ministry of Public Health, Factory No. 484, Usable until 22 September 1950, Series No. 16350, Control No. 164." The location of the factory that produced the sample is not known; it is assumed to be in either Moscow or Minsk. It is believed that the Russians have a one-year limit for the use of penicillin; if this is correct, the sample analized was slightly less than one year old.

1. The results of the analysis are as follows:

   a. The sample is identified as amorphous sodium penicillin.
   b. It contains 14.2% penicillin "G" and 44.3% penicillin "K".
   c. Its potency is 833 units per milligram.
   d. Its pH in aqueous solution is 5.3.
   e. It is sterile.
   f. It is free from pyrogens.
   g. It passes the (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) safety test.
   h. Its potency on a vial basis is 212,000 units per vial.

2. The evaluation of the sample tested is as follows:

   a. Except for its penicillin "K" content, this penicillin is comparable to that produced in the USA during 1945. In 1945, the U.S. manufacturers were producing penicillin having a purity of from 800 to 1,000 units per milligram.
   b. No amorphous penicillin is produced in the USA today. Of current USA production (16 thousand billion units per month) over 95% is crystalline penicillin "G" and the remainder is crystalline penicillin.
   c. The U. S. Food and Drug Administration would refuse to certify this sample because of its high penicillin "K" content. Because of the poor therapeutic effect of penicillin "K", no lot is certifiable by USA standards if it contains 30% or more of penicillin "K".

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